# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# AGRICULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3439
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2003
SURVEY OF CULTIVABLE LANDS
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**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to assess the quantum of cultivable lands lying waste for various reasons in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for farmers choosing not to cultivate on such land; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to encourage cultivation on such lands?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Data on the extent of culturable waste land are collected annually by the States as part of Land Use Statistics (LUS). According to the recent − most compilation of LUS, theStatewise area classified as culturable waste in the year 1999-2000 is as shown in the enclosure.

(c)&(d): Cultivation in the culturable waste land is not undertaken because of the high cost involved in bringing it under cultivation and low productivity. Government of India areimplementing programmes such as Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Lands in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers; Reclamation of AlkaliSoils; and Watershed Development Projects in Shifting Cultivation Areas, for development of degraded lands.

Annexure

State-wise culturable waste land in the year 1999-2000

(Area in `000 hectares)

| State/Union-Territory | Culturable waste land |
|---|---|
| (1) | (2) |
| ANDHRA PRADESH | 781 |
| ARUNACHAL PRADESH | 33 |
| ASSAM | 80 |
| BIHAR | 321 |
| GOA | 55 |
| GUJARAT | 1973 |
| HARYANA | 23 |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH | 119 |
| JAMMU & KASHMIR | 140 |
| KARNATAKA | 433 |
| KERALA | 58 |
| MADHYA PRADESH | 1501 |
| MAHARASHTRA | 889 |
| MANIPUR | # |
| MEGHALAYA | 449 |
| MIZORAM | 121 |
| NAGALAND | 65 |
| ORISSA | 445 |
| PUNJAB | 37 |
| RAJASTHAN | 4987 |
| SIKKIM | 1 |
| TAMIL NADU | 349 |
| TRIPURA | 1 |
| UTTAR PRADESH | 896 |

| | |
|---|---|
| WEST BENGAL | 42 |
| A & N ISLAND | 12 |
| CHANDIGARH | ## |
| DADAR & NAGAR HAVELI | ## |
| DAMAN & DIU | 2 |
| DELHI | 10 |
| LAKSHADWEEP | ## |
| PONDICHERRY | 3 |
| ALL INDIA | 13828 |

# Classified under `Land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves etc.`

## Below 500 hectares.